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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/912,957	07/25/2001	Pierre Barbier	20713	7137

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HOFFMANN-LA ROCHE INC.  
PATENT LAW DEPARTMENT  
340 KINGSLAND STREET  
NUTLEY, NJ 07110

EXAMINER

PESELEV, ELLI

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1623

DATE MAILED: 06/23/2003

13

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application N .

09/912,957

Applicant(s)

BARBIER ET AL.

Examiner

Elli Peseslev

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 May 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,8,10-15,17,18 and 20-47 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☒ Claim(s) 31 is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-2, 8, 10-15, 17, 18, 20-30 and 32-47 is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

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The numbering of claims is not in accordance with 37 CFR 1.126 which requires the original numbering of the claims to be preserved throughout the prosecution. When claims are canceled, the remaining claims must not be renumbered. When new claims are presented, they must be numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claims previously presented (whether entered or not).

Misnumbered claims 25-48 have been renumbered 24-47.

Claims 1-2, 8, 10-15, 17-18 and 20-30 and 32-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gregg et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,883,109) for the reasons set forth in the Office Action of December 9, 2002.

Applicant's arguments filed May 16, 2003 have been considered but have not been found persuasive.

Applicant contends that Gregg et al does not provide guidance or motivation to pick and choose among a multitude of cholesterol lowering drugs. This argument has not been found persuasive. A person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the instant invention was made would have been motivated to combine any cholesterol lowering drugs into a single composition because such a person would have expected the resulting composition to be useful in lowering cholesterol.

The instant specification teaches that orlistat produces in some patients unpleasant gastrointestinal side effects and that it has been found that bile acid sequestrants, when ingested together with orlistat, are able to suppress unpleasant gastrointestinal events. The only data on pages 19-20 of the specification is directed to the use of cholestyramine and colestipol as bile acid sequestrants. However, none of

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the claims have been limited to the bile sequestrant tested and to the amounts of said compounds which are effective in reducing unpleasant gastrointestinal side effects caused by orlistat.

With respect to the method for treating obesity (claims 27-30), note that the specification fails to define what is encompassed by the term "obesity". Therefore, a method for treating obesity encompasses treating side effects of obesity, such as high cholesterol levels.

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Elli Peselev whose telephone number is 703-308-4616. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays 8.30 a.m. - 5.00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James O. Wilson can be reached on 703-308-4624. The fax phone

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numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-4556 for regular communications and 703-308-4556 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1235.

Elli Peselev  
June 20, 2003

*Elli Peselev*  
**ELLI PESELEV  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
GROUP 1800**